

モノクローム・ファクター

Monochrome Factor

VI 空廻カイリ





Monochrome Factor

Nanaya

C O N T E N T S

#026: Awakening 3

#027: Curtain 31

#028: Charge 57

#029: Wounded 87

#030: Uncertainty 113

#031: Snake 141

The Sorano Gang's Workshop Manga 165





I'M
INCOMPLETE
AND
CANNOT
REMAIN
IN THIS
WORLD FOR LONG.



I'LL
FINISH
THIS
QUICKLY.

#026. Awakening





WHAT A
SLUT-
TON.



HE HAS
ALL THAT
BUILT UP
SHADOW
AND STILL
WANTS
MORE?

IS HE
EATING
THE
SHAD-
OWS?





キキキ



KOH.



GET
BACK.





HE'S
DISSOLVING
THE
SHADOWS
ON A FUN-
DAMENTAL
LEVEL.









I'M
SURE
I'VE DIS-
SOLVED
A GOOD
NUMBER
OF SHAD-
OWS.

YET
YOU'RE
STILL
THAT
STRONG?

GUH
...?!





YOU'VE
GOT
A LOT
STOCKED
UP,
DON'T
YOU?



I
KNEW
IT.



OH...





YOU'RE
REALLY
WEAK
NOW...

...RYUKO.





IF
SOMETHING
THAT
SHOULD
NEVER
DISAPPEAR
DOES SO...



HOW LONG
WILL IT TAKE
BEFORE IT
COMES BACK
AT FULL
STRENGTH?



SINCE YOU
DISAPPEARED,
I'VE SPENT
MORE TIME
ALONE THAN
A HUMAN
COULD
IMAGINE.



WHY DID
I MAKE
THAT
MISTAKE
BACK
THEN?



BUT
DESPITE
ALL THAT
TIME,
YOU'VE
ONLY
GOTTEN
BACK A
TINY BIT
OF YOUR
POWER.



TELL
ME...



IT'S
PATHETIC,
BUT THAT
REGRET
HAS BEEN
ALL I'VE
HAD SINCE
THEN.



HOW AM I
SUPPOSED
TO MAKE
THAT UP
TO YOU?



GAH!!



I WANT
YOU TO
TELL ME,
RYUKO.



WHAT
CAN I DO
SO THAT
YOU'LL
FORGIVE
ME?



...
RIGHT.

YOU
TAKE
CARE OF
HIM.

YOU'RE
THE ONLY
ONE WHO
CAN SUCK
OUT THE
DARKNESS
THAT IS
FUSED
WITH HIS
FACTOR.



WHAT'S
WRONG?
YOU USED
TO BE SO
FRIENDLY
WITH ME
IT WAS
ALMOST
ANNOYING.

YOU'VE
GOTTEN
SO
QUIET.



HAVE
YOU
GOTTEN
GOOD?

IT'S
BEEN A
LONG
TIME,
KOH.



...



YEAH.
I'M NO
GOOD.

HEH...
YEAH

...

BUT I
ABANDONED
YOU AND
RAN..

THAT
DOESN'T
SOUND
LIKE THE
KOH I
KNOW.

THAT
MEANS I
BETRAYED
YOU, YOU
KNOW?

BUT..

ANY-
THING I
DID TO
ATONE
WOULD
JUST BE
TO MAKE
ME FEEL
BETTER.

SINCE
THEN, I'VE
SURVIVED
ALL BY
MYSELF
..
AND
NOW I'M
TERRIFIED
THAT MY
POWER WILL
DRY UP AND
I'LL DISAP-
PEAR.

TO BE
HONEST
..

I CAN'T
EVEN BEAR
TO LOOK
AT YOU.

IF IT
STILL
BOTHERS
YOU SO
MUCH..

THEN
ATONE
FOR
IT..

TO WHAT-
EVER DEGREE
YOU
FEEL IS
NECESS-
SARY.

YOU
NEITHER
BETRAYED
ME NOR
RAN.

THERE IS
NO REASON
FOR YOU
TO FEEL RE-
SPONSIBLE
FOR MY
DEATH.

IN FACT,
I WAS THE
ONE WHO
WANTED
YOU TO
LIVE.



...BUT
..

BUT I
HOPE YOU
DON'T
FORGET
THIS.

I
WILL
..

I
SHALL
WAIT
FOR
THAT.



KOH...







THANK
YOU.



THIS
TIME...



I
WILL
PRO-
TECT
YOU
...

I
SWEAR
IT...



RYUKO...





#027: Curtain







SERIOUS-
LY!



SERIOUS-
LY?!



I
SUPPOSE
I SHOULD
TELL YOU
THAT I ALSO
HAD YOU
ANSWER
ALL KINDS
OF QUES-
TIONS.

Uhh...
EVERYTHING
THERE WAS
TO KNOW
ABOUT YOU

WHAT
?!



WE WERE
BRAIN-
WASHED BY
SOMETHING
THAT
SHADY?

I JUST
EXTENDED
YOUR
MEMORY
OF WHAT
HAD COME
IMMEDIATE-
LY BEFORE
I ARRIVED.
IT WASN'T
THAT
HARD.



OKAY.
BUT...



HMM, I
WONDER
WHAT IT
WAS...P

SCREW
YOU! TELL
ME! WHAT
DID YOU
ASK?

YOU'LL
NEVER
GET
ME TO
SAY.
☆

WH-
WHAT
DID YOU
ASK?!

IF YOU
REALLY
WANT TO
KNOW...



YES,
I'D LOVE
TO HEAR
IT, TOO.



OH MY
GOD!

?!
SH-
SHOO-
GANG?



UM,
SHIRO-
GANE...

YOUR
SPEECH
IS STILL
POLITE, BUT
YOUR FACE IS
BACK TO ITS
OLD, SCARY
LOOK.

Yeah!

PLEASE
TELL US
YOUR
EXCUSE.



THAT
YOU HAD
MET
RYUKO.



WHY
DID YOU
NEVER
TELL ME
THIS,
KOH?



IS IT
SOME-
THING
WORTH
TELLING
YOU
ABOUT,
ANY-
WAY?



IT
WASN'T
REALLY
THAT I
DIDN'T
TELL
YOU.

IT'S
MORE
THAT..



HE DIDN'T
GIVE ME
ANYTHING
YOU'D BE
INTEREST-
ED IN..

I WAS
TOLO TO
TAKE CARE
OF THINGS.
THAT IS ALL
THAT MAT-
TERS.



SO IS
IT REALLY
SOME-
THING
I HAVE
TO TELL
YOU?



KOH...

I'M
NOT
QUITE
CLEAR
ON WHAT
YOU'RE
GETTING
AT...



THESE
TWO...

WH-
WHAT'S
GOING
ON?



...NOT
REALLY
FRIENDS
AT ALL?

THEY'RE
SMILING,
BUT THEY
LOOK LIKE
THEY
WANT TO
KILL EACH
OTHER.

ARE THE
TWO OF
THEM...



BUT
YOU'RE
RYU-
KO'S-

NONE
OF
THAT!
TO
BEGIN
WITH..



I'M HERE
TO TALK
ABOUT KEN,
NOT RYUKO,
RIGHT?

NOW NOW,
LET'S CALM
DOWN,
SHIROGANE!
IT'S NOT
WORTH
FIGHTING
OVER, IS
IT?



YOU
ALWAYS
MAKE ME
FEEL KIND
OF BAD
FOR KEN.

GUYS..

*Wait!
They just
forgot
about it!*

COMPLETELY

THE
RYUKO
THING
WAS SO
BIG THAT
I FORGOT
ALL
ABOUT
IT.

OH.
COME TO
THINK OF
IT...





WE CAN BE SURE THAT HOMURABI KNOWS HE'S A FACTOR HOLDER.



ANYWAY, KEN'S MADE CONTACT WITH HOMURABI.



IF THAT'S ALL IT WAS, THAT'D BE ONE THING.



HMM...

IN OTHER WORDS, HOMURABI MIGHT TRY AND KIDNAP KENSOP



YES, I SUPPOSE SO..

WHAT ABOUT KENSOP SHOULD WE TELL HIM?



BUT THERE ARE SOME OTHER POSSIBILITIES.

EITHER WAY, WE SHOULD BE CAREFUL.



A
FACTOR
HOLDER
?

NOW
DO YOU
UNDER-
STAND..

WHY
HE'S
SPECIAL
TO ME?

HIM?

—



HUP
TO SA-
WAKI?



THEN
LEAVE.

I MUST
SPEAK
TO
SAWAKI.



LEAVE.



YES,
SIR.



GIVEN MY
CERTAIN-
TY OF HIS
LOYALTY
TO ME...

IT'S A
SHAME.

SHIKI
CAN
BE EMO-
TIONAL.



EVEN
I DESIRE
SMALL
TALK OCCA-
SIONALLY.

IF YOU
NEED TO
DISCUSS
SOME-
THING,
PLEASE
MAKE THE
TOPIC
CLEAR.

DON'T
YOU
THINK,
SAWAKI?

HEH..
DON'T
BE IN
SUCH A
HURRY.

IS THAT
WHAT YOU
WANTED TO
TALK TO ME
ABOUT?



SAWAKI.



THEN
SPEAK
WITH
PUREL
PER-
HAPS.

YOU
DON'T
NEED
ME FOR
THAT.

I'LL
BE
ON MY
WAY.



WHY DID
YOU ALTER
MY
ORDER?



I'M
NOT
UPSET.

HEH...
HEE HEE
HEE!

OH,
DON'T
GET SO
SCARED.



..WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?



BUT YOU
STOPPED
SHIKI AND
BROUGHT
HIM BACK.



THE
ORIGINAL
ORDER TO
SHIKI WAS,
"DO NOT
HURT THE
BOY. KILL
THE REST."

IF IT
WAS WITH-
DRAWN, IT
WOULD BE
"KILL ONLY
THE BOY." CORRECT?



SAWAKI

I
THOUGHT
THE
ORDER TO
"KILL THE
OTHERS"
HAD BEEN
WITH-
DRAWN.

OH
MY
...
SO
THAT'S
WHAT
YOU
MEANT?



I'M NOT
WORRIED
ABOUT
SHEL
...
BUT I'M
NOT AS
CERTAIN
ABOUT
YOUR
LOYALTY



IF YOU
TOLD ME
TO...



I WOULD
GET ON MY
KNEES AND
LICK YOUR
BOOTS...OR
ANYTHING
ELSE.



NOT
AT
ALL.

MY
LOYALTY
TO YOU IS
DEEPER
AND MORE
ABIDING
THAN THE
SEAS.



IF
THAT STILL
DOESN'T
SATISFY
YOU...



SHALL
I...

MAKE
ANOTHER
ATTEMPT AT
KILLING A
KING?



.....

...IN
THAT
CASE.

EXCUSE
ME.



WELL, IT
DOESN'T
MATTER.

HEE
HEE.

CRAFTY.



YES...
IT'S
ALL A
FARCE.



REVENGE,
DECEP-
TIONS,
STRUG-
GLING...

IT'S ALL
JUST A
SINGLE ACT
IN A STUPID
DREAM
PLAY.





SHIRO-
GANE...

WHAT I
WANT IS A
PARADISE
OF DARK-
NESS...



SHADOWS
WILL SOON
FILL THE
WORLD.

THE
END
OF THE
WORLD
MEANS
NOTHING
TO ME.
THE END
OF THE
STORY
MEANS
NOTHING
TO ME.



IT'S
TIME TO
BRING
DOWN THE
CURTAIN.

#028: Charge







YEAH...
WELL...
EXCUSE
ME.

IS IT
FUN ASKING
QUESTIONS
WHEN YOU
KNOW THE
ANSWER?



AND FOR
A LOT OF
REASONS,
WE CAN'T GO
TO PLACES
SUCH AS DEEP
FORESTS...

MOST OF THEM
ARE JUST
RUMORS THAT
ARE UNLIKELY
TO HAVE ANY-
THING TO DO
WITH US

I
TOOK A
LOOK,
TOO.



HEY...

WANT
TO ASK
SIS?

THE
FASTEST
WAY
WOULD BE
TO ASK
SOME-
BODY.

OH
YEAH? I
GUESS IT'S
NOT EASY
PICKING A
GOOD
SPOT.

I
DIDN'T
MEAN IT
LIKE
THAT!

WHAAAT
?!

YOU'RE SO
OBSESSED
WITH YOUR
SISTER.

USH...

I'M SURE
SHE'D FIND
SOMETHING
BETTER FOR
US THAN THIS
MAGAZINE.

UH...?
WOULD
SHE?

YES,
BUT IT'S
A GOOD
IDEA.

YES.

OKAY!
LET'S GO
ASK HER
TODAY!

YEAH,
THAT MEANS
ANYWHERE
SHE SAW
A GHOST
ACTUALLY
HAD A HOLE
IN IT!

OH,
THAT'S
RIGHT. YOUR
SISTER
SEES
KOKUCHI
AND SHIN,
NOT
GHOSTS.



HEY,
YOU
GUYS!



JUST
ENDED.
I'M
CLEANING
UP.

HEY,
AYA!

CLUB
OVER?



YEAH,
WE'VE GOT
A SMALL
TOURNAMENT
THIS
WEEKEND.

THE
KENDO
TEAM'S
STAYING
LATE.



YOU'RE
NOT IN ANY
CLUBS, SO
WHY ARE
YOU STILL
HERE?



KENSO'S
PLACE?
WHY?

SORT
OF.

ANYWAY,
WE'RE
STOPPING
AT
KENSO'S
PLACE ON
THE WAY
BACK.

HUH?
WERE
YOU
WAITING
FOR
ME?

HEY...
WHA...WHY
DON'T WE GO
DURING
DAYLIGHT
THIS TIME?
LIKE OVER
THE WEEK-
END...



...!!

Y-
YOU'RE
GOING
AGAIN?

WE'RE
GOING TO
HAVE MY
SISTER
TELL US
ABOUT
HAUNTED
SPOTS!

YES, IT'S
EASIER TO
FEEL THE
DARKNESS
AT NIGHT.

NAH, IF
THERE'S
ANYWHERE
CLOSE,
WE'RE
GOING
TODAY.

URK!



WHY?

HUHP

I...I
DON'T
THINK
I...
TODAY
IS NO
GOOD
FOR
ME...

AND
LATELY, MY
GRANDPA
HAS BEEN
GIVING ME A
HARD TIME
ABOUT
COMING
HOME
LATE!

'CAUSE
WELL...
WELL...

I KNOW!
I'VE GOT
THAT
TOURNA-
MENT
COMING
UP,





HUH?

HAUNTED
SPOTS?



I
COULDN'T
SAY OFF-
HAND...

YEAH, I
FIGURED
YOU'D
KNOW A
BUNCH.



OH...
JUST
SO
MANY...

THERE
ARE
JUST SO
MANY.

O-RIGHT?
SO YOU
DON'T
KNOW
ANY YOU
COULD
MENTION
OFF-
HAND?



HMM...

NOT
QUITE.

YEEK!

THERE
WERE LOTS
OF SUICIDES
AND SLASH-
ED MURDERS
THERE, LIKE
THAT?

STRONG,
HUH?

THEN
MAYBE SOME-
PLACE REALLY
STRONG...?

WELL,
THERE'S A
HOTEL OFF THE INTER-
STATE
CALLED (CROSSED
OUT)
THAT USED
TO BE AN
EXECUTION
GROUND.



YOU
KNOW,
I'M NOT
ACTUALLY
A GHOST.

TALKING
WITH YOU
ABOUT
HAUNTED
SPOTS
THAT HAVE
A GHOST
IS WEIRD

BUT
YOU'RE
A QUITE
ONE,
SO IT'S
OKAY!



HMM...
I KNOW!
HOW
ABOUT
THIS?



DEFINITELY
SOMEPLACE
WHERE YOU,
PERSONAL-
LY, HAVE
SEEN
GHOSTS.



THERE'S AN
ABANDONED
SCHOOL NEAR
THE ELEVATED
TRAIN LINE IN
THE WEST
DISTRICT.

I ONCE
EXPLORED
IT AS A KID.
THERE WAS
PLENTY
OF STUFF
THERE.



YEAH,
THAT'S A
FAMOUS
HAUNTED
SPOT.

I KNOW
THAT PLACE.
THERE WERE
A LOT OF
ACCIDENTS
WHEN THEY
TRIED TO
TEAR IT
DOWN, SO
THEY JUST
LEFT IT.



ALL
RIGHT!



THEN
LET'S
HEAD
THERE
TODAY.



HMM...
WELL, IT
DIDN'T
MATTER
TO ME.

OH!

WE
JUST
WANT
TO GO
EXPLOR-
ING!

WHY A
HAUNTED
SPOT AT
THIS TIME
OF YEAR?

BUT...



YOU'LL
GET
HURT.

BUT YOU
SHOULDN'T
MESS WITH
GHOSTS
TOO MUCH.



DON'T
MESS
WITH
GHOSTS?



I
DUNNO.
MAYBE
SHE
SEES
BOTH?

AND
WHERE
IS
KOH?



IT'S
JUST
KOKUCHI
SHE SEES,
RIGHT?

WH-
WHAT
KIND OF
WORK, I
WONDER
...

OH
YEAH.

I
CALLED
HIM, BUT
HE SAYS
HE HAS
WORK.

ANY-
WAY...

LET'S
TAKE A
LOOK
AND GO
HOME.

IT'S
ABIS
SCHOOL,
SO THERE'S
A LOT TO
SEARCH.

YEAH!

I
DON'T
KNOW
IF THOSE
TEAMS
ARE
REALLY
EVEN...

WHAT?/
I'M WITH
KENSO?

HOW
ABOUT
ME AND
SHIRO-
GANE,
AND AYA
AND
KENSOU

YEAH...

WE
SHOULD
SPLIT
INTO
TWO
GROUPS.







THEN THE
PRINCIPAL
COULDN'T
TAKE IT AND
COMMITTED
SUICIDE.

IT GOT
OUT OF
HAND, AND
THE KID WHO
WAS BEING
BULLIED
DIED.



BUT
THERE
WERE LOTS
OF ACCI-
DENTS WHEN
THEY TRIED
TO TEAR IT
DOWN.

THE
SCHOOL
WAS
GETTING
OLD TO
BEGIN
WITH, SO
THEY JUST
EMPTIED IT
OUT.



SO THE
WORKERS
DIDN'T WANT
ANYTHING
TO DO WITH
IT, AND IT
JUST SAT
HERE.



I
SEE...

THIS WAS
SUPPOSED-
LY A LONG
TIME AGO.
DUNNO IF
IT'S TRUE.



AND
SO
THAT'S
WHY...

PRETTY
COMMON
STORY FOR
A HAUNTED
SPOT.



DON'T
TALK
LIKE
THAT!

GYAH!



THEY
SAY
THERE
ARE
GHOSTS
HERE!



AND
ANYWAY
IT'S
KORUCH,
NOT
GHOSTS.
THAT
WE'RE...



NO, I
DON'T!

WHAT?
BUT YOU
WANTED
TO KNOW
WHY IT'S
SUPPOSED
TO BE
HAUNTED,
RIGHT?



YEEK!

WH-
WH-
WHAT
IS IT
?!



BEHIND
YOU!



JUST
KIDDING.
★



HEY,
WAIT!

D-D-
DON'T
LEAVE
ME
HERE!



WHAT
?!



HEH
HEH
HEH.

WHEN
SHE
COMES,
I'LL
JUMP
OUT AND
SCARE
HER.





AKI-









BROTHER KOH?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!

BUT IF YOU'RE HERE, THAT MEANS IT WAS KEN BACK THERE.

OH.

SO THAT WAS KENGO WE SAW JUST NOW?

HUH?
OH, UH, JUST WORK.



GUESS WE'LL GO CHASE HIM.

NOT THAT I WANT TO.

WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM?



HUH?!

-HHAAAAA



THERE'S
A REAL
GHOST
BACK
THERE!

S-S-
SAVE
ME!



A-
A-A-
AYA!



HUH
?!

A-
AYAP



THAT
AGAIN?



IT
DOESN'T
MATTER
WHETHER
IT'S A
GHOST
OR A
KOKUCHI!











#029: Wounded













THIS HAS
TAKEN A BIT
MORE OUT
OF WHAT I
HAVE LEFT...

OW...

I
SHOULDN'T
HAVE COME
ALONE.

HEY!
HEY!



INSTEAD
I THOUGHT
WE SHOULD
DISCUSS
A MORE
EFFICIENT
WAY OF
GOING
ABOUT ALL
THIS...

WE
WON'T
BE
GOING
TODAY.

WHAT
HAUNTED
SPOT ARE
WE GOING
TO THIS
TIME?

IT'S
HARD TO
IMAGINE
ANYTHING
HAPPENING
TO HIM,
BUT...

JUST
IN CASE,
YOU
KNOW?

I
COULDN'T
SET A
HOLD OF
BROTHER
KOH.

BUT WHY
ARE WE
COMING
OUT HERE
INSTEAD OF
GOING TO
KENGO'S
HOUSE?

*Meeting
at my place
for the
first time?*

JUST IN
CASE?

...P!
AKIRA...

WELL,
IT'S
NOTHING
SERIOUS,
REALLY,
JUST...

SOME-
THING
DOESN'T
FEEL
RIGHT.

HUH?





HMM...?

BROTHER
KOH?!

HUH?
AKI...?

Oya...

DON'T
"HUH" ME!
WHAT HAPPENED?



I
HAD SOME
SPARE TIME
SO I WAS
LOOKING
FOR HOLES.
I SCREWED
UP AND A
KOKUCHI
GOT ME.

PRETTY
EMBAR-
RASS-
ING.

AH
HA HA...
SORRY
TO
SCARE
YOU.



MAYBE...
BUT I CAN'T
ACTUALLY
GO TO A
HOSPITAL.

FORGET
THAT,
BROTHER
KOH!

I'M USED
TO WOUNDS
LIKE THESE.
IT'S FINE.

OH,
BUT I'VE
SEWN UP
MY HAND
AND
STOM-
ACH.

YOU
NEED TO
GO TO A
HOSPI-
TAL!



SHIRO-
GANE,
YOU TAKE
CARE OF
BROTHER
KOH!

I'M
GONNA
GO CALL
MASTER.

F-
FINE?



HE'S
GOT
HEALING
POWERS.



I
THINK
HE CAN
HELP.



"MASTER"?
YOU MEAN
THE GUY
WHO RUNS
ASING?

UNDER-
STOOD.



I'LL
GO WITH
YOU!

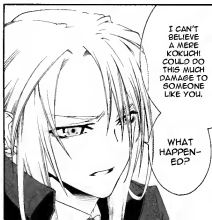
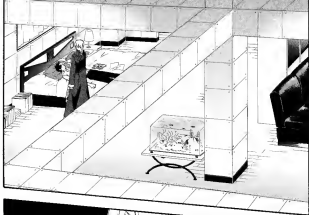
WHAT
?!



I'LL
BE
RIGHT
BACK!



THEN
I'M
GOING,
TOO!



I CAN'T
BELIEVE
A MERE
KOKUCHI
COULD DO
THIS MUCH
DAMAGE TO
SOMEONE
LIKE YOU.

WHAT
HAPPEN-
ED?



KOH..

YOU
SAID A
KOKUCHI
CAUSED
THOSE
WOUNDS,
DIDN'T
YOU?

YEAH?
SO?

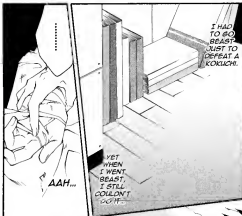




...BUT
THIS
MADE
IT
CLEAR.

I WAS
TRYING TO
PRETEND
IT WASN'T
HAPPENING
SO THAT
I DIDN'T
HAVE
TO THINK
ABOUT IT...

AND...



AAH...

I HAD
TO GO
BEAST
JUST TO
DEFEAT A
KORUCHI.

YET
WHEN
I WENT
BEAST,
I STILL
COULDN'T
DO IT...



I
THINK



THINGS
ARE
GETTING
BAD FOR
ME.



WHO'S
"MASTER"?

COME
TO
THINK
OF IT



I ONLY
KNOW
ONE GUY
WITH HEAL-
ING ABILI-
TIES.



NOW
HE RUNS
A BAR IN
TOWN.

OH
YES, YOU
WOULDN'T
TALK TO
HIM ANY-
MORE.

HE'S
THE ONE
YOU'RE
THINK-
ING OF.



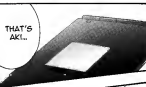




HOW
MEAN... YOU
SHOULD'VE
TOLD ME.

OH?

SO
HE WAS
HERE ALL
ALONG.



THAT'S
AKI...



HERE.

YOU
TAKE
IT.

It is a
bit of pain
at the
moment.

JEEZ...



THEN
AGAIN, HIS
HEALING
HURTS
MORE THAN
NATURAL
PAIN.

ENDING



?!

HUP

WHAT
ARE YOU
SAYING
?!



AT

HELLO?
AKIRAP

WILL
MASTER
BE
COMING?



AND
WHEN SHE
CAME IN
TODAY,
HE WAS
COLLAPSED
BEHIND THE
BAR.

I SAID...
FROM WHAT
KENSO'S
SISTER IS
SAYING, HE
HAS BEEN
PALE
LATELY.



SO THE
AMBULANCE
IS TAKING
HIM TO A
HOSPITAL...

IT DIDN'T
LOOK LIKE IT
WAS FROM
ANEMIA OR
SOMETHING.
HE LOOKED LIKE
HE WAS IN A
COMA.



BYE.

END



WHAT
DID SHI-
ROBANE
SAY?



YEAH.

YEAH.
GOT
IT.

I'LL
LEAVE
BROTHER
KOH TO
YOU.



HE'S
GOING TO
GO TO THE
HOSPITAL
WITH ME TO-
MORROW.

HE SAID
MASTER'S
COLLAPSE HAS
SOMETHING TO
DO WITH THE
DARKNESS
INVADING
OUR WORLD,
PROBABLY.



WELL...



I SEE.



AND HE
SAYS HE
HAS A
LITTLE BIT
OF HEALING
ABILITY OF
HIS OWN,
SO HE CAN
HELP
BROTHER
KOH.



HE'LL
DO WHAT
HE CAN.



BUT...

SHIRO-
GANE'S
ABILITIES
ARE GOING
TO TAKE
DAYS
TO HEAL
BROTHER
KOH.



FOR
REAL
...?



AKIRAI
ARE
BROTHER
KOH AND
MASTER
OKAY?

I-I
DON'T
KNOW!



I CAN'T
BELIEVE IT.
EITHER.

BUT HOW DID
BROTHER KOH
LOSE TO A
KOKUCHI? I
JUST CAN'T
IMAGINE IT...



WHAT
...?

SERI-
OUS-
LY?!



I
GUESS THE
DARKNESS
IS MAKING
THEM
STRONGER.
MAYBE
THAT'S
WHY?



ALL
THE
ADULTS
ARE
OUT.

KOH IS
WOUNDED.
MASTER'S
IN A
COMA.

SHIRO-
SANE WILL
BE TOO
BUSY HEALING
KOH TO
HELP.



EVEN
SO, WE
HAVE TO
STOP THE
INVASION
OF THE
DARK-
NESS.



WHAT
DO WE DO
NOW?



I COULD
FEEL THE
UNCERTAIN-
TY AND
VAGUE
UNEASI-
NESS
GROWING
WITHIN ME
BY THE
SECOND.

WHAT
DO WE
DO...?



AND
THAT'S
REAL-
IZED.



WITHOUT THOSE THREE, WE
COULDN'T DECIDE A THING.



#030: Uncertainty









Going
"WE
CAN'T
DO
ANYTHING
ON OUR
OWN,"
HUH?





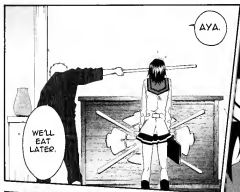


I'M HOME.



GRAND-PA!











BUT I
CAN TELL BY
LOOKING IN
YOUR EYES
THAT IT'S
NOTHING
LIKE THAT.

THERE'S
SOMETHING
IMPORTANT
TO YOU OUT
THERE,
RIGHT?



OR WAS
YOUR
RESOLVE
SO SMALL
YOU'D LET
A BIT OF
UNCERTAINTY STOP YOU?

I DON'T
KNOW
WHAT IT IS,
BUT IT WAS
IMPORTANT
TO YOU
WHEN YOU
STARTED,
WASN'T
IT?



GRAND-
PA...



IF
YOU'RE
GOING TO
LET YOUR
UNCERTAINTY GET
THE BEST
OF YOU,
THEN
STOP
NOW.





IT'S
PATHETIC.

WHAT
DOES HE
MEAN... "UN
CERTAIN-
TYP" 

I'M
HERE
OF MY
OWN
WILL.



HAVE
WE EVER
REALLY
BEEN
"TOGETHER"?





WHY
DON'T
YOU JUST
DISAP-
PEAR?

IN
FACT, I'M
GONNA
MAKE
YOU DIS-
APPEAR.



YEAH!



SO
YOU'RE
THE
ONES
WHO AT-
TACKED
MASTER
AND KOP?

AND
SO...
I FIGURED
YOU'RE THE
ONE WHO
SUCKS THE
MOST, SO I'D
KILL YOU
FIRST.

★



HOMU-
RABI WAS
ALL, LIKE,
"I WANNA
GET
START-
ED FOR
REALS,
SO GO
KILL 'EM
ALL."

RURU!
WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING
HERE?!





FINE.

I
NEVER DID
FINISH MY
FIGHT WITH
YOU.

YOUR
BLOOD, YOUR
FLESH, YOUR
BONES... GIVE
IT ALL TO ME,
OKAY?



YOU
WANT A
PIECE OF
ME?

I
ACCEPT
YOUR
CHAL-
LENGE!



DAD.



NO, I
HAVEN'T
SEEN
HER.

HUH
?!

BUT I
JUST
HEARD
YOUR
VOICE

AYA
JUST
CAME
HOME,
RIGHT?









HUH?
BUT...

That wasn't the deal!



AND
WHY ARE
YOU LET-
TING THE
KOKUCHI
DO ALL
THE FIGHT-
ING WHILE
YOU JUST
SIT
THERE?!



YOU'RE
HUMAN,
AREN'T
YOU?

I MEAN,
SURE,
YOU WERE
A LITTLE
FAST LAST
TIME,
BUT THAT
WAS IT,
RIGHT?



Ang!

"BEATING
UP ON
WIMPS"?



I
DON'T
LIKE
BEATING
UP ON
WIMPS.



WHY-



IS IT
REALLY
WORTH
MY TIME
TO FIGHT
YOU?



KYA!



WHY
YOU
LITTLE
BRAT!



HEY!

THE
THING IS...
I DON'T
LIKE
FIGHTING.



I
DON'T
CARE!

ANY-
WAY,
FIGHT
ME
FAIR!



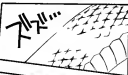
I LIKE
HURTING
PEOPLE,
BUT I
DON'T
LIKE
GETTING
HURT.





OH BE
QUIET.

BUT
NOW
THAT YOU
MENTION
IT...MAYBE
I CAN HELP
MY CUTE
LITTLE
KOKUCHI
A BIT.



HUH?
...?

IT'S
ABOUT
TIME.

WAIT.





OF
COURSE,
YOU'LL
SATISFY
HIM,
RIGHT?



I
CALLED
HIM JUST
FOR
YOU.



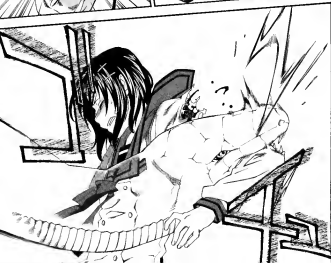
HE'LL
EAT
YOU UP,
BONES
AND
ALL.



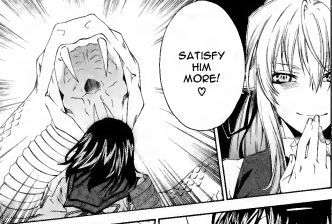


#031: Snake















I
FEEL THE
PRESENCE
OF SOME-
THING...

GRAND-
PA?

AYA...

IS
THIS
WHAT
YOU'RE
FIGHT-
ING?



BUT
I CAN
SEE
BLACK
THINGS.

NOT
CLEAR-
LY...

YOU
CAN
SEE
THEM
?!



...IS
A BIT
MUCH?

DON'T
YOU THINK
BRINGING
YOUR
FRIENDS TO
A FIGHT...

AND
THAT
GIRL.

SOME
PEOPLE
ARE LIKE
THIS. NO
ABILITIES,
BUT THEY
CAN FEEL
YOUR PRE-
SENCE...



IF
YOU'RE
GOING TO
FIGHT,
FIGHT
FAIR.



I WON'T
HELP HER.
EVEN IF
MY GRAND-
DAUGHTER
IS GOING TO
BE KILLED,
I WON'T IN-
TERFERE
IN YOUR
FIGHT.



WHAT
?!

BUT
YOU'RE,
LIKE,
TOTALLY
HELPING
HER!



BUT...





HMPH.



"GEEZER"?
WHAT
A RUDE
GIRL.







I'M NOT
OUT OF
THE FIGHT
YET.



AND
YOU...

FIGHT
UNTIL
YOU
WIN.



AYA.



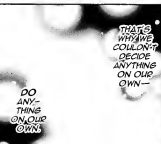
LEAVE
THE BLACK
ONES TO
ME.



THAT'S
RIGHT...



WE HAVE
RELIED ON
THEM TOO
MUCH.



THAT'S
WHY WE
COULDN'T
DECIDE
ANYTHING
ON OUR
OWN—

DO
ANY-
THING
ON OUR
OWN.

YES,
SIR!





WHAT
ARE WE
HERE
FOR
ANY-
WAY?!

IF WE
NEED
THEM
FOR
EVERY
LITTLE
THING
...



PA-
THE-
IC

WHAT
...?

WHY
ARE WE
FIGHT-
ING WITH
THESE
THINGS
AT ALL
?!

IT'S
JUST
PA-
THE-
TIC!

PA-
THE-
IC.



UNLESS
YOU
ACTUALLY
BACK IT
UP WITH
ACTIONS
AND WILL-
POWER, IT
DOESN'T
MEAN A
THING!

NO
MATTER
HOW
STRONG
YOUR RE-
SOLVE...







SO WHAT IF
YOU LOOK
DIFFERENT
NOW?



IT'S
NOT
GONNA
SAVE
YOU!





DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE MY GRAND-DAUGHTER.

SO WHAT IF SHE GOT ANOTHER SWORD?!

WH-WHAT IS WITH HER?



SHE
WAS
ALWAYS
A DUAL
SWORD
USER.

AND
JUST SO
YOU KNOW...
SHE'S PRETTY
GOOD WITH
THEM.

the Sorano Gang's Workshop Manga



WARNING:

This chapter recreates the workshop of the Sorano Gang using the characters of "Monochrome Factor." It has nothing to do with the regular story or its characters. Please think of it as a completely different work. Also, this story is fiction. (Heh!)



The
strange
stories of
Kaito Sorano
and the
assistants,
which most
manga
readers
will never get
to see...

"Christ"
"Monochrome Factor"
"Mother Keeper"
"Jigoku Kikou"

PROLOGUE!



We'll show you
a bit of them here...



YOU
ALWAYS
SPILL
WATER!

AGAIN?
!

WHA
PI!
MATT SUI
SPILLED
WATER!

WHA
PI!
MATT SUI
SPILLED
WATER!

It's always like this.

KALI'S POSITION

↳ Meeting with Friends From art school

HA
HA
HA

CAN YOU BELIEVE THAT IF THE WRITER SAYS A CROW IS WHITE, THEN IT BECOMES WHITE?

IT'S
SUGGEST-
edly like
that for
them

SO IF
HE SAYS
A CROW IS
WHITE, THEN
WE HAVE
TO GO WITH
THAT.

WE
ASSIS-
TANTS
HAVE TO
DO WHAT-
EVER THE
WRITER
SAYS.

My buddies
who are assis-
tants say...

OH?!

↑ Don't hold your pen like that.

UH...
YEAH...
I'M
SORRY.

THAT
WRITER
SHOULD
DIE IN A
FIRE.

COLD
STARES

HUH
?!
CROWS
ARE BLACK,
OF COURSE!
ARE YOU RE-
TARDED?

End
of
the
story

It's also like this.

EXCITEMENT



LAME.
I DON'T WANT
TO RE-
SPOND.

SO MY
MOM ONCE
MADE ME
LUNCH WITH
KATSUDON*
IN IT.

When
they're excited,
they're really
annoying, but it
doesn't last!

Sorano and
Yuuka both
get excited
in the same
way.

Oiga has his hat!



Oiga has his hat!



* katsudon is deep-fried, breaded pork cutlet

† Always excited.

‡ At work, Sorano is called "Boss."

SILENCE



WELL, EVEN
IF I DON'T SAY
SOMETHING
BOSS/YUUKA
WILL SAY
SOMETHING.

The is
where
you're
sup-
posed
to say
some-
thing.



Why
don't
you
just
say
that?

BUT,
LIKE, SHE
SCREWED UP
AND PUT A
CROQUETTE
IN IT.

She
has
her
hat
on.



WELL, IT
DOESN'T
MATTER.
IT'S JUST
KORE.

She
talking

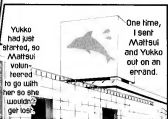


AW,
BOSS/YUUKA
DIDN'T SAY
ANYTHING.

??



THEY GET LOST EASILY



Yukko had just started, so Matsuji volunteered to go with her so she wouldn't get lost.

One time, I sent Matsuji and Yukko out on an errand.



One hour later..



MAN, I'M SO GLAD TO HAVE SOMEBODY I CAN RELY ON.



GETS LOST EASILY

After that day, I swore to myself..

I would never take directions from Matsuji again.
-Yukko





So once in a while, we all do stretches in the sleep room.

Sitting too long in a chair is bad for you.

WE HAVE STRETCHING TOURNAMENTS

†The sizes are weird.



...was a very strange pose.

CREEPY !!!

That must *unp* harm.



LIKE HECK IT'S NOT!

SURPRISINGLY, IT'S NOT TOO HARD.



WELL, JUST DO WHATEVER WORKS FOR YOU.

HMP I'M NOT STRETCHING.

But for some reason, it doesn't work for Yuuka.

STRETCH LEADER



I'VE GOT IT!



After trial and error, the stretch they found worked best...



In a workplace filled with oddballs, Yukko seemed rather calm (Poor Tensei).



IT'S JUST A MUSH ROOM, RIGHT?



Several Minutes Later





Sorano's Editor is the Second Editor in Chief of "Blade" and the Editor in Chief of "Masa-mune." E-da is amazing.

E-DA, THE WONDERFUL EDITOR



END





TALK, YO

Volume six, everybody! It's me, Kaiti. (Hi!) This volume, I didn't have time to make a four-panel comic for the end. Sorry. If there's anybody who looks forward to those weird four-panels, please forgive me.

The big thing for this volume was that picture of Nanaya! (Heh!) He only showed up in a few chapters of volume 2 of the manga, but he's pretty popular in the anime. Also, I like him personally, so I put him on the cover. (Heh!)

He was the first real bad guy, so I wasn't sure how to draw him on the cover. He looks kinda like he's screwing around, but maybe he's actually a nice guy when he's not being a villain! (Not my problem!) Maybe he'd do a pose like that if he found a cool knife? Yeah... probably not. (Wa ha ha ha!)

Oh, about the bunch of work stories that ended up in here, that's from a special I did about two years ago. Yeah, we needed to fill up some pages...yeah. (Dies.) But, it's been a while since it was written, and my workshop is still the same as ever.

Alrighty then, praying I can see you in volume 7.

Spectrum $\frac{1}{2}$ Sky ..

THANKS

Editor - E-da

Assistants - Koike, Yukko,
Razobu, Minami

